





-  Career Reference
-  Oversized Books
-  Professional Collection
-  Magazines

Welcome to our library!

Use the map above to locate  
your print resources!

## RESOURCES



Check these sites for further information on the Dewey Decimal System:

Let's Do Dewey—This page gives a great deal of information about the Dewey Decimal System:

<http://frank.mtsu.edu/~vvesper/dewey2.htm>

Can You Do the Dewey? - This site contains information and a tutorial to help you to become more familiar and comfortable with the Dewey Decimal System:

<http://www.thrall.org/dewey/>

## ABC HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

If you need any further help with the  
Dewey Decimal Classification System,  
please see Mrs. Pruyne or Mrs. Gosselin - we'll be happy to help you!

## ABC HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

# NAVIGATING THE DEWEY DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM



Use this guide to help you to find the  
books you need in the library.

L. Pruyne & R. Gosselin

April 2011

# THE DEWEY DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

## What is the Dewey Decimal System?



The Dewey Decimal Classification System (named for Melvil Dewey, its creator) is a system used to organize books so that they're easy to find. This is done by putting groups of books that are on the same topic or of the same type together. Each type of books is assigned a number. Once you know what numbers match which categories, you can find the kind of books you need.

## The Three Levels of the Dewey Decimal Classification System:

First, books are divided into ten groups, numbered by *hundreds*. Each group represents a very broad category – for example, the 400s are books about Language.

Within each group of hundreds, books are divided again in categories of *tens*, each category further specifying what type of book is being represented. So, a book in the 400s is about language, but one in the 430s is about the German language in particular.

Finally, each group of tens is divided further into *single numbers*. You know to look in the 970s for books about North American History, but books with the call number 971 deal specifically with Canadian History. See how specific the Dewey Decimal System can get?

Actually, it gets even more specific than that, as numbers continue past the decimal point. But that's a topic for another day!

## 000

010 Bibliography  
020 Library & information science  
030 General encyclopedias  
040 Not used  
050 General serial publications  
060 Organizations  
070 Journalism, publishing, media  
080 General collections  
090 Manuscripts & rare books

## 100

110 Metaphysics  
120 Epistemology, causation, humankind  
130 Paranormal phenomenon  
140 Specific philosophical schools  
150 Psychology  
160 Logic  
170 Ethics  
180 Ancient, medieval, Oriental philosophy  
190 Modern western philosophy

## 200

210 Philosophy & theory of religion  
220 Bible  
230 Christianity  
240 Christian moral & devotional theology  
250 Christian orders & local church  
260 Social & ecclesiastical theology  
270 History of Christianity & Christian sects  
280 Christian denominations  
290 Comparative religion & other religions

## 300

310 Statistics  
320 Political science  
330 Economics  
340 Law  
350 Public administration & military science  
360 Social programs & services  
370 Education  
380 Commerce  
390 Customs, etiquette, folklore

## 400

410 Linguistics  
420 English & Old English  
430 Germanic  
440 French  
450 Italian, Romanian, Rhaeto-Romanic  
460 Spanish & Portuguese  
470 Latin  
480 Greek  
490 Other languages

## Generalities

## 500

510 Math  
520 Astronomy  
530 Physics  
540 Chemistry  
550 Earth sciences  
560 Paleontology  
570 Life sciences  
580 Plants  
590 Animals

## 600

610 Medicine  
620 Engineering  
630 Agriculture  
640 Home economics (cooking)  
650 Management  
660 Chemical engineering  
670 Manufacturing  
680 Manufacture for specific uses  
690 Building

## 700

710 Arts, Sports, Recreation  
710 Civic & landscape art  
720 Architecture  
730 Plastic arts (sculpture)  
740 Drawing & decorative art  
750 Painting  
760 Graphic arts  
770 Photography  
780 Music  
790 Recreation, performing arts, sports

## 800

810 Literature & Rhetoric  
810 American  
820 English & Old English  
830 Germanic  
840 French  
850 Italian, Romanian  
860 Spanish, Portuguese  
870 Latin  
880 Greek  
890 Other literatures

## 900

910 Geography, History, Biography  
910 Geography, travel  
920 Biography, genealogy, insignia  
930 Ancient world  
940 Europe  
950 Asia  
960 Africa  
970 North America  
980 South America  
990 Other areas